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ROYAL ASIA

NOTICE

THE Trustees of the HINDOO PATRIOT Newspaper and Press have this day appointed Babu Rajkumar Sarvadhikari, of No. 27 Mott's Lane, Manager of the Hindoo Patriot Press, and authorised him to sign all bills, to grant receipts, under his signature as Manager, for all sums remitted to him on account of the Press, and generally to conduct the business of the Press on behalf of the Trustees and under their instructions.

Under the direction of the Trustees,
RAJENDRALALA MITRA,
One of the Trustees.

CALCUTTA
September 11, 1886.

With reference to the above Notice I request that all business communications (advertisements, changes of address, jobworks &c..) should be addressed to me as Manager, at the present Office of the paper, No. 27 Mott's Lane, and all remittances made payable to me.

All old Bills, not yet realized, will be countersigned by me before re-issue; and henceforward all Bills and Receipts will be signed by me as Manager of the Press on behalf of the Trustees.

Calcutta
27 Mott's Lane
September 12, 1886

RAJKUMAR SARVADHIKARI,
Manager,
Hindoo Patriot Press.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 25TH OCTOBER

THE reader will have some idea of the consideration with which the paternal Government of the White Czar treats its subjects from the following. "The Administrator-General of the Caucasus, after considering the causes which impel the Mahomedan inhabitants of the province of Kars to emigrate into Turkey, and finding it impossible to tolerate this emigration of Russia's Mahomedan subjects who thus wish to evade the conscription, has ordered the military governor of the province of Kars to oppose by all legal means this tendency, and also to inform individuals and families who cross over to the Turkish dominions without express permission that they wil. be prohibited ever returning to Russia, and that should they do so they will be punished according to the law. A close guard is also to be observed to prevent the Kurds who recently passed into Turkish territory from returning to the Caucasus.

THE Anglo-Burmese Government is actively engaged in negotiations with the Shan Chiefs with the object of inducing them to acknowledge British authority. Two fortified posts have already been established in the Shan Hills, and the late General Macpherson had arranged to establish several others.

Mr. Burgess, Commissioner of Mandalay, has issued stringent orders against the discharging of firearms by day or night in the streets of the city. But *cui bono*? Fire-arms within Mandalay proper are not quite so much to be afraid of as those outside it. No amount of *karakkar* on the townspeople would bring the country 'dacoits' round.

THE notorious 'Dacoit' Chief Boh Shoay has gone to Napeh, which is 35 miles west of Minboo. He there holds a strong position, affording easy means of escape to the Yomadoung Hills, which commands the road through the Aeng Pass into Arracan. The country between Napeh and Minhla is mountainous and difficult. A strong force is being collected at Minboo, and it is expected that an immediate movement against Boh Shoay will take place.

THE Opium Act is extended to the Island of Perim. Perim, with the recent case after its own name and extensions of Acts which it may stand in no absolute need of, is going to be made quite a celebrity it seems.

AT a banquet lately given in London in honour of the Hon. J. Gordon Sprigg, the Treasurer of the Cape Colony, Admiral Sir Anthony Hoskins made a speech in which he emphasized the necessity of fortifying the Cape, and said that he was convinced that, in case of England being at war with any of the Great Powers, her policy would be to blow up the Suez Canal and use the Cape route. India, we take it, ought in all fairness "pay a little primium" for this additional means of her safety from Eagles, and Bears.

THE Egyptian question continues to be the chief topic of the day in France. The French papers, in dealing with the subject, demand in a menacing manner that the British should evacuate Egypt, and are urging M. Freycinet to press England in the matter.

A GENERAL order by the Commander-in-Chief reports the well-known fact that Government troop traffic has priority over all other traffic on the guaranteed railways. The order should not be too stringently applied in times of peace, as the ordinary passenger traffic might thereby be inconveniently hampered. The case would of course be quite different in times of pressing exigency, and no one would think of grudging the arrangement.

TUESDAY 26TH OCTOBER.

INSTRUCTIONS have been given to the constabulary by the authorities at Dublin Castle with reference to the organisation of the National League of such a specific nature as to lead to the belief that the Goverment contemplate taking decisive steps in the matter. In every locality where a branch of the League has been established the police are directed to procure the names of the officials connected with the branch in question, and all other information possible as to its working. In addition to this, the detective force has been reorganised and increased by the employment of special men for the purpose. Great activity has been displayed in police circles in southern districts within the past few days.

THE attention of the Board of Directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce has been called to the rumours recently current regarding the re-imposition of the import duties in India, and at a late meeting the following resolution was adopted :—"That the Directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce have learned with astonishment that proposals have been made in certain quarters to re-impose the duties on cotton goods and yarns imported into India, and that whilst the Directors have confidence that her Majesty's Government will not entertain such a proposal, they have empowered the Indian committee of the Chamber to take immediate and vigorous action should occasion arise." A copy of the resolution has been sent to the Secretary of State for India. We trust that in the present financial crisis of India the Secretary of State will do his duty, and not allow himself to be intimidated by any number of bullying resolutions of the above discription. Nothing but the re-imposition of these perfectly unobjectionable and harmless duties can save India from sheer bankruptcy. Doubling yea trebling the hateful Income impost cannot make the two ends meet. If the Chamber threatens "vigorous action," it behoves the Indian public to take equally active measures to lay a powerful counter-mine.

THE British and Colonial Temperance Congress has, through its President, represented to the Government of India that the Excise system in British India has tended to cause the increase of intemperance among the natives. Returns of statistics are in course of preparation. The Government is perfectly well aware of the fact without the help of any representation. But it won't literally raise a finger to prevent its loyal subjects from being daily and hourly poisoned.

LORD BRASSEY, writing to the *Times* on the match between the *Mayflower* and *Galatea* yachts, advises the English yacht builders to remodel their lines of construction by giving more beam and less length. He argues that the American yachts are superior to English ones in all weather, except when blowing a gale. Hardly a compliment to the "first naval power in the world."

THERE was recently held at Gotha a Diet of delegates from the various cremation societes in Germany, as well as of other countries, including Italy, Switzerland, Holland, and America. The Diet approved the establisment of a general association of societies for funeral reform and optional cremation; and this association was joined by the local societies of Berlin, Potsdam, Frankfort, Darmstadt, Liebnitz, Chemnitz, Heidelberg, Dresden, Leipsic, Hamburg, Vienna, &c. These societies have already their journalistic organs in the shape of two magazines called *Gesundheit* and *Neue Flamme* (*Health* and *New Flame*), so it will be seen that the cremation idea is making progress in Germany. The delegates inspected the crematorium at work in the churchyard of Gotha, and they were assured by the Burgomaster that the repugnance of many to this form of burial had been completely overcome by the sight of the decorous and befitting manner in which bodies are reduced to dust and then imured. Common sense is bound to prevail in the long run.

WEDNESDAY 27TH OCTOBER.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, who had originally included India in his programme of a tour for the winter, has abandoned the idea, and contents himself with two months on the continent. He has started for Vienna.

THE *Rangoon Gazette's* Mandalay correspondent telegraphs that Captain Burnett's expedition have returned to Kyanhyat after penetrating to Sagadoung, forty miles from the ruby mines. The tribes are friendly, and the country is level and open jungle, but resistance is expected nearer the mines. The expedition starts for the mines early in November.

AN official telegram reports that eight dakaities have been committed during the week in the Mandulay District by the Shans. A detachment from Kume attacked the Dakait village of Pedaw, killing four of the enemy. The Shoaybe, Sagaing, Myinmu, Ningyan, and Yemethen districts are still much disturbed. Heaven knows when we are to hear the last of these dacoities.

MR. W. S. Whiteside, third member of the Madras Board of Revenue, has been appointed member of the Viceregal Council in succession to Mr Goodrich, who takes furlough.

THE nett amount of Indian sea and land customs revenue, exclusive of the salt revenue, for the first

six months of the current financial year, was Rs. 49,74,000, as compared with Rs. 51,24,000 during the corresponding period of the last year.

THE town of Buffalo is going to have the largest clock in the world. The dial, will be 25 feet in diameter, and the centre of the dial, will be illuminated by electricity, and it is calculated that the time can be seen at night from any point in the city, and with a field glass the position of the hands can be distinguished at a distance of fifteen miles.

WE have received the first number of a monthly periodical called the *Bhisak Bandhu*, the first of its kind, in the Bengali language, treating of medicine as practised by European doctors. In these days when disease and death stalk rampant throughout the country, it has become necessary that pater-familias should know something of the healing art, and the *Bhisak Bandhu* promises to supply the means in the language of the people. The magazine will also prove a trust-worthy companion to the Native doctors in the Mofussil, who are not well versed in the English language, as well as to all medical practitioners who wish to be acquainted with the experiences of their professional brethren, as the journal is written by a number of distinguished medical graduates and successful practitioners of this city. We hope the publication will be largely supported.

IT is said that the Colin Campbell divorce case will be heard in *camera*.

THE Lahore paper says :—"We are sorry to hear that the illness of the young Maharaja of Puttiala is such that he will probably be prevented from attending the Chiefs' Durbar. Two other native Chiefs who may unfortunately be prevented by illness from attending the Durbar are the Rajas of Jhind and Nabha. Their absence, if necssary, has been excused in advance by the Lieutenant-Governor." Three leading chiefs falling ill simultaneously with a Durbar approaching is rather an awkward coincidence. No point of precedence is at issue let us hope. Sir Charles Aitchison's prospective excuse is graceful at any rate.

THURSDAY 28TH OCTOBER.

STRENUOUS measures are being taken in Prussia to limit, and even so far as possible, to suppress the whole system of private education. Private schools are only to be allowed in future "in those places where the public instruction for children of the legal school age is still insufficiently provided." The total extinction of the private schools is clearly only a question of time. Germany has to create a nation yet after a particular model, and Government cannot very well afford, we apprehend, to allow contradictory systems in the matter of Education. In India the express and covert policy of Government is to back out by any wise of its Educational responsibilities.

MR. HUGH E. M. STATFIELD, who has recently made a 1,200 miles' ride through Morocco, describes the system of government in that country as one of robbery downwards. The Sultan squeezes the baschas, the baschas the kaids, and the kaids the poor—and, it must be added, the Christians and their *proteges* plunder them all. Neither person nor property is safe from the arbitrary exercise of power by corrupt and tyrannical governors.

A LETTER from the pen of M. Remenyi, the violinist, is published in the *Japan Mail*, in which he bids farewell to the country and the people. He says that he considers Japan, for the present, the only really artistic country in the world, for it is only there that grace, originality, and inborn artistic feeling and touch exist unknowingly in the masses, and not sporadically." If we mistake not, M. Remenyi told the people of India very much the same thing in his valedictory letter which went the round of the press. Very likely the Monseiur keeps by a lot of stereotyped phrases which he strings together as occasion requires. Say the best things of the last man you visit.

THE Paris *Figaro* says that Madame Sara Bernhardt has received from a group of Argentines an estate measuring 6,000 hectares of land.

MORE than 100 French officers in civilian dress are said to have watched the late manœuvres at Alsace without hindrance on the part of the German War Minister, who knew of their presence in Strasburg.

THE *Railway Service Gazette* states that it is proposed to start a Company to work the Jubbulpore iron industries, to the value of which Mr. McMinn recently directed attention. We trust the projecters will steer clear of the causes which brought about the ruin of the Barakhur Company.

MR. Theodore Hope, at the meeting of the Viceroy's Council, on the 21st ultimo, moved for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate the supply of electricity for lighting and other purposes. He said the necessity for the Bill was demonstrated about three years ago, when there was a sudden influx of Electric Light Companies, and it was then found that there were no legal means of protecting the public or preventing interference with the telegraph system. The currents used were sufficiently powerful to cause instant death, and to render useless telegragh or telephone wires in their vicinity. With regard to public safety, the Bill provided that wires should be put in such a position as to render contact impossible, or be covered with insulating material; and, with regard to interference with telegrams and telephones, this would be provided for in a license which would have to be taken out.

FRIDAY, 29TH OCTOBER.

THE first batch of the office establishment of the Financial Department is expected to leave Simla about the 1st November to join the Calcutta office on the 8th November; the other portions of the establishment will follow shortly after, and the Secretariat will be in full working order at the Presidency on Monday, the 15th November.

SIR Charles Aitchison will not resign office when he commences his tour as President of the Public Service Commission early in January next. Sir Charles will continue to carry on the duties of Lieutenant-Governor until the expiration of his term in April.

MR. SCOBLE, the newly appointed Law Member, is timed to arrive at Bombay on the 12th of November, where he is to be met by the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert.

THE India Postal notes have died a natural death. They were never popular because they were not useful and all the efforts of the authorities to popularise them failed. The Government have wisely discontinued their sale.

FROM a Notification in the *Central Provinces' Gazette*, it appears that work is about to be recommenced on the Nagpore-Bengal Railway. A declaration is made that a strip of land, measuring 1,631 acres, from the east side of the river Arpa to the boundary of the Bilaspore District, is required for the construction of the railway.

IT is stated that the Hindus of Delhi intend to sue Government for three lacs of rupees as damages suffered by them during the late riots. The step would not be foolhardiness considering the criminal negligence showed by authorities in taking preventive measures.

THE Mysore Government intends to open a railway to be called the Mysore-Gubbi Railway, and has sanctioned the expenditure of twenty-two lacs of rupees for its construction.

WE are glad to see the prosperous state of the Exchequer of the Mysore Government. Four years ago Mysore had a surplus of about twenty-four lacs. It has now a balance of about thirty-two lacs. We wish every other Native State were as prosperous as Mysore.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharajah of Durbhunga looks forward to an opportunity of doing the honors of Durbhunga for the Under-Secretary of State (Sir John Gorst) and the members of the family of His Excellency the Viceroy some time during the cold season.

IT is reported from London that the Indian Government have made some provision for the wife of Maharaja Duleep Singh. Mr. Muler, a merchant of Alexandria, who greatly interested himself in the education of this lady, has been appointed co-trustee, together with the permanent Under Secretary for India, for the Maharani and her children. Her Highness is to have between £5,000 and £6,000 a year settled upon her, which sum will come out of the pension which the Maharaja has just thrown up. It is also likely that something will be done for the sons of the Maharaja, possibly in the direction of cadetships. The Maharani is said to be a woman of exemplary piety, devoted to her husband, and will hear no word of reproach against him.

SATURDAY, 30TH OCTOBER.

THE project for an agricultural school in the Punjab has fallen through, because, it is said, of the unwillingness of District Boards to help with the requisite funds. Sir Charles Aithcison, in replying to an address the other day, confessed that the Government is too poor to establish such a school at its own cost. If District Boards, who are of all public bodies most interested in such a subject, would come forward with help the Local Government, he added, would no doubt be ready to re-open the question. Referring to village education, Sir Charles went on to say that he had this year set aside a sum of Rs 25,000 for new primary schools and zemindaree schools of a purely village type, with a course of studies specially adapted to the humble agricultural community. Though the details had not yet been fully worked out, it was hoped that some schools would be established before the close of the year.

THE riot at Hoshiarpur, it is stated, was a premeditated affair, and was got up in retaliation for the punishment of the butchers who were convicted of cow-killing in September, 1885. It is hinted abroad that about a fortnight before the *tazia* procession, a party of disaffected Muslims went to a small shrine, *Shah Nurjamal*, about seven miles from Hoshiarpur, and there concocted the whole business and drew up a plan of operations. The number of Mussulman *visitors* (?) to the Mohurrum festival exceeded the normal population of Hoshiarpur, Hindoo and Mussulman combined No attack was made on any Mussulman shop; the looting was confined to the Hindoo traders exclusively who were the only sufferers.

WE hear that Baboo Narain Chunder Bhuttacharjee, B. A., who is now officiating as the Government Bengalee Translator in the Bengal Office, will probably be appointed to the post caused vacant by the death of the late Baboo Rajkisto Mookerjee, on a reduced pay. Why should the Government overlook the claims of Pandit Hara Prosad Sastri M. A., a most deserving and worthy officer, who is in the same department? He is very well qualified to fill the lamented deceased's place and has the confidence of the Vernacular Press.

THE *Indian Messenger*, the organ of the *Sadharun Bramho Samaj* writes in the following sensible strain :—A writer in the columns of the *Indian Christian Herald* has found in the orderly manner in which the native Christians of this city marched in procession through the streets of Calcutta, in connection with their last Dusserah meeting, a sufficient proof of the peaceful and orderly character of that community. We do not grudge our native Christian brethren that credit, but the proof adduced is not an appropriate one. It rather speaks well of the Hindu community of Calcutta. The Christians were those who had organized the procession, and in the natural course of things it was not they from whom any thing like disturbances could be expected. It was their interest to make the demonstration solemn and effective, and any breach of order would have baffled that end. So no praise is due to them for maintaining order on that occasion. But praise should be accorded to the Hindu community at large, for not offering the least resistance to the Christian procession. We enjoy in Calcutta a blessed immunity from all those sectarian disturbances, which cause so much trouble to the authorities in Upper India.

SIXTEEN centenarians have just been feted in France. Half of them are bachelors—an argument in favour of celibacy; but half are, or have been, married—an argument in favour of matrimony. How many are smokers and how many topers is not stated. Half a dozen on one side and six on the other we presume.

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The Hindoo Patriot.

Monday, November 1, 1886.

MR. ILBERT.

In course of the next ten days the Indian career of Mr. Ilbert will be brought to a close, after four-and a-half years' arduous labour in this country. He had not won his spurs when he came to India; but he was well known in professional circles as a fairly good scholar, a sound lawyer, an able draftsman, and a person of wide views and generous sympathies; above all he was a thorough party-man, and had done good service to the Liberal cause in his own line. He never had any extensive experience of country court practice, and in the higher courts he did not win a silk gown or the magic Q. C.; but for all that he was thoroughly reliable, and his four-and-a-half years' work in this country shows that he was not unequal to the onerous post for which he was selected. Coming after four such distinguished predecessors as Sir Henry Maine, Sir James Stephen, Lord Hobhouse, and Mr. Whitley Stokes, he had to display no ordinary amount of talent to maintain his position, and prevent unfavourable comparison, and he did not fail; and the high office to which he has lately been nominated in the House of Commons proves that his services have been duly appreciated by those who are best able to reward them. The great complaint during the time of his predecessors was that the Indian Legislative mill worked too fast; that it did not confine itself to the duty of supplying the requirements of the people for whom it worked, but poured forth mighty torrents of law, swamping away all the landmarks of a habitually slow-moving conservative nation; that it worked under the impulse of closet theories and not practical knowledge. Other charges also were not wanting. A desire to associate one's name with something grand is natural to humanity, and it is no more presumptuous to suppose that the legislative member of our Council should exert hard to give birth to a magnificent Code with which his name may ever after be associated than for a ruler to achieve something in the administrative line, or a conquest, for a similar purpose Each has to exert for his *magnum opus*, each for a monument to live in history. But such ambition becomes mischievous when the idea is confined to the magnificence of the monument, and not to its utility to the people which have to pay for it and live under its baneful shadow—and the charge was that legislative monuments were being rapidly erected more for the sake of memorials, and less for any that may come out of them. The rapidity with which the work of codification was progressing is best shown by the fact that out of six great codifying measures which the Law Commissioners reported upon in 1879, no less than four were passed in less than three years before March 1882, by Mr. Whitley Stokes. These included the codes relating to Trusts, Easements, Transfer of Property, and Negotiable Instruments. Whatever their legal merit and technical perfection, certain it is that they completely bewildered our judicial machinery, and no less a personage than our late Chief Justice Sir Richard Garth bitterly complained at a Trades Dinner of the rapidoverflow of laws in the country. It was generally believed that Mr. Ilbert came out with instructions to slacken the pace of legislation, to 'ease' the machinery, and give some respite to the people; and the belief was justified by the fact that he early abandoned the two remaining codes of the Law Commissioners, the Alluvium Bill, and the Master and Servants Bill. But he was not many months in the country before he had to put his hand on a measure of extreme gravity. A little time before his arrival, Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore had, in open Council, extracted from Lord Ripon a promise that the Criminal Procedure Code would be amended so as to remove from it the disqualification under which magistrates of Indian birth then laboured. Circulars were then issued to Local Governments and others for opinion, and Mr. Ilbert had to frame an amending Bill in accordance with the expressed opinions of the majority. The opinions obtained were discordant. While some officers were flatly against granting the relief, others took a more or less liberal view. The most thorough-going reformer in the case was Sir Charles Aitchison, whose name is so honorably associated with every liberal movement. Mr. Ilbert took a moderate course. Instead of simply omitting the disqualifying clause in the Code, he drafted a set of tinkering clauses, which, however, entirely failed to satisfy those for whom the moderate tone was adopted. His speech in Council in support of the Bill was one of the ablest which he has delivered in this country, and the principle he enunciated was perfect. It at once won the highest approbation of the entire native community of India, and some of the greatest jurists in England sided with him for his liberal views. It would be quite out of place here to recount the history of the measure—the so-called Ilbert Bill. Suffice it to say that the credit of the measure was not due to Mr. Ilbert. He drafted the Bill because it was his duty to do so; he advocated it because he could not do otherwise when he had to move it in Council, and he emasculated it when he was called upon by Lord Ripon to adopt that course. It suited the convenience or humour of the non-official Anglo-Indian community to traduce him for drafting the Bill, and it served the interests of the Indians to belaud him for doing so; but in reality he had no more claim for praise or blame for it than a secretary has who drafts the orders of his superior officer. We are willing to grant that all his sympathies were in favour of the Bill, that he spoke his mind freely and frankly when he supported it with his speech, and that he felt sorry when he had to undo his work; but in reviewing his career as a legislator, we feel bound to add. that he acted throughout as an advocate and not an earnest reformer and man of rigid principles bent on doing that which was right. True, neither he nor his chief had the stamina of Lord Macaulay and had therefore to succumb; but as a man of principles he might have allowed the Bill to be thrown out by an adverse majority, or withdrawn it to be taken up at a more opportune moment, and not converted it into the ugly, hideous, miserable, emasculated abortion that he did. and then given it permanency by signing the concordat.

Simultaneously with the Ilbert Bill came in the Bengal Tenancy Bill. He had to draft it, and for a time to carry it on in Council. The subject matter of the Bill was not familiar to him, and he had to be coached a good deal by some of his colleagues. But the role he had to enact was not a difficult one,—it was that of an arbitrator between two contending parties, and deciding between the whole hog doctrine of the Bengal Government on the one side and the equally unyielding resolute opposition of the zemindars as represented by the late Hon'ble Kristodas Pal on the other. The broad question at issue was whether or not the Government should be allowed to confiscate certain rights of the Zemindars—rights which had been guarranteed to them by the law of the land, by the House of Commons, and by their sovereign, and enjoyed by them for wellnigh a century, and it was not at all difficult for an able and conscientious lawyer to come to a clear understanding about it. Let us suppose that the view of the case he took was the right one, and that the law he framed involved no confiscation, but his action as the Chairman of the Select Committee did not show that he held the scales with that perfect impartiality which his position as umpire demanded of him. We do not wish to dwell at length on the subject now, but the charge we make is serious, and we feel bound to cite here at least one proof. Sir Steuart Bayley was away from the Committee for a time, Mr. Reynolds was too much committed by what he had already written on the subject fully to support SirRivers Thompson's views and Sir Rivers himself was unequal to the trenchant logic and the overflowing flow of facts with which Babu Kristodas Pal swamped his colleagues. Sir Rivers felt under the circumstances that outside help was necessary for his cause, and he brought in Mr. MacDonnell, a rank outsider who had no right whatever under the law to sit in the Committee and take part in its deliberations, and Mr Ilbert yielded to the arrangement. Subsequently when Sir Rivers was incapactaited by illness to attend the Committee, Mr. MacDonnell continued to act for him, not as a duly appointed substitute, but by the tolerance or fiat of Mr. Ilbert as Chairman of the Committee and in direct defiance of the protest of the Zemindar members. The injustice and partiality of the course was made peculiarly glaring when His Highness the Maharaja of Darbhanga requested permission of his colleagues on the committee to bring in a friend of his—a barrister—to help him to take part in the debates, he by himself feeling like Sir Rivers, unequal to the task. Mr. Ilbert flatly declined the permission, as it would be opposed to the standing orders of theCommittee. The sauce that was fit and proper for Sir Rivers was totally unfit for Darbhanga. No one who has been guilty of this ruling, can claim the credit of a just, impartial, fair-dealing arbitrator, umpire or chairman. In fact Mr. Ilbert acted throughout as the leading advocate of Government and not as a judge. The next illustration we have to offer is nearly as cogent. The leading members of the Council including his Excellency the President have repeatedly borne their high testimony to the ability, prudence, tact and judgment and unanswerable argumen with which the lateBabuKristodas Pal and his successor Babu Pearymohan Mookerji fought for every inch of ground, but in Committee, in nine cases out of every ten, their opposition elicited no reply, and Mr. Ilbert voted them out as unnecessarily taking up the time of the Committee. Mr. MacDonnell, an outsider, though not voting. expressed his disapproval of the suggestions of their Zemindar members and the Committee including Mr. Ilbert, without discussion, voted as suggested.

Of theother legislative measures with which Mr. Ilbert's name is associated we have nothing to say. They were of the tinkering patchwork description, for which neither Mr. Ilbert himself nor his friends will claim any merit, and we readily overlook them.

As a member of the Supreme Council and law adviser of the Viceroy, Mr. Ilbert must have had a great deal to do, but the public has never had an opportunity to judge of their character. Certain it is that he never took such a hand in any particular work as to draw him out, or to signalize him as worthy of special credit, and the public cannot be accused of want of appreciation if it fails to recognize his merits in that respect.

Two years ago Mr. Ilbert was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University in succession to Mr. Reynolds. He brought considerable scholastic reputation with him, and public expectation ran high in the hope of finding a rival to Sir Henry Maine in that line. But the expectation was formed only to be disappointed. Mr. Ilbert has no pretension to oratory, and the most important work expected of a Vice-Chancellor is that of an able orator. The convocation address of the past year was, as we noticed at the time, a failure, and Mr. Ilbert has had no opportunity since to redeem his reputation. As an administrator of the University he proved no better. The main and indeed the only work of the University is Examination, for it is by its Charter strictly an examining body and nothing else, and the grossest scandals in that respect got currency in course of the last two years. Matters came to a point when a large body of Senators demanded an enquiry, and Mr. Ilbert, unable to shirk the enquiry, packed a committee of three of his own selection he himself being one of them, excluding every one of those who claimed this enquiry and shunted the whole

thing out of the line. Of administrative reform we are not aware of any single subject of importance in the history of the University with which Mr. Ilbert's name is associated.

We are bound to add, however, that, in private intercourse with the people of this country, he was kind, amiable and sympathetic, and his conduct won the good will of all who had the privilege of his acquaintance. He encouraged social intercourse with the people, and did not at all participate in that rank race hatred which disgrace the action of some of his countrymen.

A HALF AND HALF CONCESSION.

Some time ago the local Chamber of Commerce prayed the Bengal Government to grant it the privilege of electing a certain number of members for the Calcutta Port Trust; but its prayer was not granted. Sir Rivers Thompson thought that the Chamber did not represent the whole of the European commercial community in Calcutta; that there were several very influential firms which did not belong to the Chamber, and that it would be unfair if those who were so situated were left entirely out of consideration. The Chamber was not satisfied with this reply. In a rejoinder it went at length into the subject, pointed out that only two leading houses did not belong to it, owing to some personal misunderstanding, and that practically it represented the whole of the European commercial body. Sir Rivers thereupon said that he would consult the Chamber and the independent firms every time he would have to appoint a Port Commissioner to represent commerce and trade, and that he had done so in certain recent instances. This concession, however, did not prove so satisfactory as was expected; and the Government has thought over the matter again, and addressed another letter to the Chamber. In it, after giving a *resume* of former correspondence, the Secretary of the Government says;

From various indications, however, the Lieutenant-Governor gathers that it would still be preferred that the elective principles should be definitely affirmed by law; and as the procedure which he had himself decided to adopt during his tenure of office is identical with that which legislation would provide, he will not withhold his consent to the desired measure. The Government of India has accordingly been asked to allow the Bengal Council to undertake the amendment of the law during the ensuing session. The Lieutenant-Governor proposes to fix the number of Comissioners, in addition to the Chairman, at 12, and of these he would provide that four should be elected by the Chamber of Commerce, and one should be elected by the Trades association. He would also provide that not less than two of the Commissioners should be natives of India residing in the Town or Suburbs of Calcutta or in the Town of Howrah. This would leave a certain number of Commissioners to be nominated by Government to provide for the appointment of official members and for the representation of railway and other interests which owing to the rules governing its constitution cannot be represented in the Chamber of Commerce.

This is a most appropriate concession to public demand. The Port is connected intimately with the interests of the commercial community, and it is but meet and proper that they should have a potent voice in its management. Nor should this voice be dependent on the good will or courtesy of Government; it should be derived as a legitimate right to which the Government, whether willing or not, should always bow. Such is the case in all civilised countries, and it should not be otherwise in Calcutta. It should be noted, however, that the European merchants are not the only persons interested in the Port. Native merchants are as much interested in its welfare as the foreigners. Nay, they are more interested, inasmuch as they have an abiding permanent interest, and not a temporary one. The European merchants are, with rare exceptions, mere birds of passage; they come to make money and retire for good as soon as they have attained that object, and their highest interest lies in making the Port charges as light as possible in regard to their work. The natives have, on the other hand, to look to the future, as well as to the present. Every loss, every mismanagement, every debt incurred now, will not only fall on them, but be entailed on their children's children for ever so many generations. Certain it is, that the effect of former Governmental mismanagement of the Port, still sits heavy in the form of a debt on the shoulders of the Trust. There are moreover, antagonistic interests between the foreign and the native merchants. If we remember aright, it was not long ago that in order to afford relief to European merchants with reference to certain Port charges, the balance of account was kept intact by raising the tariff of the inland wharf charges. Nor is the extent of native trade such as to be lightly thought of. Data are wanting to show the relative proportion between Eropean, Nakoda, and native interests in the foreign export and import trade; but the local trade of the natives is by no means small. During the past year the total receipts from the jetties, which represent foreign trade, amounted to rupees 8,96,040, and the Inland Vessels Wharves yielded Rs. 3,55,081, plus Rs. 23,168 for five months from the Howrah side. Taking the last for a year at Rs. 50,000, the total yield from local trade is about one-half of the foreign trade. To represent this interest, Sir Rivers Thompson has hitherto not appointed more than a *single* representative in the Port. Now he proposes "to provide that not less than two of the Commissioners should be natives of India residing in the town or the Suburbs of Calcutta, or in the town of Howrah," but he adroitly avoids committing himself to any opinion as to whether they are to be *appointed* by Government or *elected* by the people. It is to be presumed that *appointment* and not *election* is meant, and that the list of eligibles will be found in the newspapers which record the names of those who crowd the railway platforms on certain occasions. Assume that the selection will be made very judiciously; still the question will remain that if our European friends, for or without valid reasons, demur to abide by the selection of the Bengal Government, the natives may be permitted to do likewise. We object, too, to the large margin left by the words Town or Suburbs or Howrah. If the European tradesmen of Calcutta cannot abide by the judgment of their fellow European merchants and must have a representative of their own, native Calcutta may feel aggrieved if their interests be handed over to Howraites or Suburbanites. It would amount to a positive insult added to injury. True, Sir Rivers bears no good will towards the natives of Calcutta, and would gladly go any distance to avoid them; but personal likes and dislikes should not be allowed to influence legislation, and a Governor of his position and standing should not allow himself to be swayed by them. We should add that the number of Government Commissioners proposed is too large. To allow fairplay to non-official administrative talent, the number should be considerably reduced.

THE FOREIGN TRADE OF INDIA.

The Annual Trade returns of British India for 1885-86, show features which deserve more than a passing notice at the present time. They afford an interesting comparision for the five years from 1881 82 to 1885-86. It appears that the value of total imports of foreign trade, exclusive of Government stores and treasure, during the past official year amounted, in round numbers to 52 crores of Rupees as compared with 53¼ crores in 1884-85. The value of export of merchandise, foreign and country, amounted in 1885-86, to 84 crores of rupees as compared with 88¼ crores in 1883-84, which was an exceptionally favourable year for the foreign export trade of India, owing to the failure of the wheat crop in America. The surplus of exports over imports in 1885-86, exclusive of Government stores and treasure, exceeded 30 crores of rupees. This fact should be carefully borne in mind by those who are accustomed to exhibit the increase in the export trade of India as a mark of the prosperity of the country under British rule. As our contemporary of the *Statesman* pointed out some time while ago, the great countries of the world that are believed to be prospering by their trade, show aggregate surplus imports to the amount of 230 millions sterling a year over their exports, the United Kingdom standing at their head with a surplus of 123 millions upon a gross trade of 731 millions. Including Government stores and treasure the total imports of India during 1885-86 amounted to 67¼ crores of rupees and the total exports to 85 crores. India, therefore, shows a deficit of 20 crores upon an aggregate trade of 125¼ crores. But all other nations of the world, backward and advanced put together, are profiting to the extent of 210 millions sterling upon their foreign trade. In other words, they are annually receiving back ten per cent. more than they give. The Indian deficit absolutely stands alone, our imports falling short of our exports lastyear by the sum of 20 millions. It must be admitted, however that there has been an improvement in this respect as the deficit of 1884-85 stood at 26 millions. Nevertheless, the fact that 20 millions worth of our exports in 1885-86 had no corresponding imports, is a serious one. It speaks, for itself and does not require any comment.

A few leading items of our exports and imports cannot fail to be of interest to the general public. Among the staple export trades of India, the wheat trade exhibited the most remarkable development during the past year. The exports reached over a *million tons* valued at 8 crores of rupees: fifteen years ago they amounted to less than 250,000 cwts. Nearly half the quantity was shipped from the port of Bombay. The total value of seeds exported was nearly 10 crores. Here, again, Bombay exported a much larger quantity than Calcutta. The trade of Bombay has been steadily increasing for some time past. The rice trade which had been depressed for the two preceeding years also recovered last year. The total exports were from 22 to 28 millions cwts. Of this quantity more than two-thirds were from Burma. Raw cotton has always been the most important staple of India's export trade, but the value of the quantity of this product shipped last year was only 10¾ crores as compared with 13¼ crores in the previous year. This decline is partially due to the increasing amount of raw cotton consumed in the Indian mills, and so far it need not be regretted. The remarkable expansion of the export trade in Indian yarns and piece goods with China is a matter for congratulation. Last year 68 million pounds of Indian yarn were shipped to China, and of English less than one-third of that quantity. There is every reason to hope that in course of time India will monopolise the China market, if Manchester will allow her to do so. The value of our tea exports increased by upwards of 25 lakhs last year. It is worthy of note that a large amount of foreign tea is still annually imported into India from China and Japan for re-exportation to Persia and Central Asia. It is desirable that Indian tea should find a market in those countries. The matter deserves the consideration of our merchants. In discussing India's resources as a grain-growing country, Mr. O'Connor makes an excellent suggestion. He points out that not less than 3½ million cwts. of maize were last year imported into the United Kingdom. India could supply the whole of this quantity if the cultivation of maize were undertaken on an extensive scale. The Indian trade with Belgium and Italy, is gradually increasing, but that with France and the United States is steadily declining. It seems that the Americans are trying to grow their own linseed in revenge for the injury which India has done to their wheat trade.

The increase in the value of imports is chiefly in cotton piece goods, metals, sugar, oils, machinery and railway plant. The value

of cotton goods in twist and yarn imported last year exceeded 24 crores and that of metals 5½ crores. Nearly a crore worth of oils were brought from foreign countries. These oils were doubtless made from the seeds of various kinds exported from India. It is most desirable that all the oils which India now import from abroad ought to be made at home. If this were done the oil-cakes would be available for being used as manure and food for cattle, which would be a great advantage. It is worthy of note that India imported last year nearly 20 lakhs worth of matches and 34 lakhs worth of paper and paste-board. All the matches and paper consumed in the country ought to be made here. India now makes its own printing paper, but it has still to import all its writing paper and paste-board. We have an inexhaustible supply of raw materials for making paper; but they are not utilized to the desired extent. Nearly 19 lakhs worth of umbrellas were imported last year, and 51 lakhs worth of glass. Umbrellas and glass can easily be manufactured in this country. It is a lamentable fact that inspite of the great progress which education is making in the country, the people of India have increased their consumption of imported goods by more than 50 per-cent during the last few years. Why should not our countrymen undertake to manufacture most of the articles of every-day use, instead of relying on foreign countries for the same? India has the advantage of raw materials and cheap labour. There are many industries which can be successfully established in this country. We hope our educated countrymen will turn their attention to this most important subject, with which the prosperity of India is intimately bound up.

EMPLOYMENT OF MAHOMEDANS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

The Government of Bengal has recently issued a Resolution on the subject which heads this article. The reader will remember that the Government of India, in passing orders on the memorial of the National Mahomedan Association, desired that in those provinces where Mahomedans did not receive their full share of State employment, the local Governments and High Courts should endeavour to redress this as opportunity offered. With a view to give effect to the wishes of the Supreme Government, the Bengal Government requested the Heads of Departments under it, to ascertain and report to what extent Mahomedans are employed in the ministerial appointments at their disposal. They were further asked to state what opportunities present themselves for redressing any inequality which might exist, without impairing the efficiency of the public service, and whether the existing rules for admission to State employment press unduly upon Mahomedan candidates. From the information furnished in reply to the first enquiry, the Lieutenant-Governor has come to the conclusion that in several branches of the public service, and in many districts, Mahomedans do not receive employment in proportion either to their numbers or to their qualifications.

Before considering how any particular evil can be remedied, it is absolutely necessary to ascertain its cause. Why is it that Mahomedans are not largely employed in offices under Government? It should be carefully borne in mind that in those provinces where Urdu is still the official and court language, Mahomedans largely predominate in the public service. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, in the Punjab and in the Central Provinces they enjoy not only a fair proportion, but an unduly large share, of State patronage. It is only in Bengal and Bombay where the number of Mahomedans in the public service is small. The reason is to be found as the Government of the Western Presidency in reporting on the memorial of the National Mahomedan Association, just remarked, "not in any disfavour to Mahomedans, entertained by English bestowers of patronage, nor in the over-powering influence of Hindu advisers and subordinates, -for the Government and its high officers are fully alive to the administrative advantage of associating men of different races in every department of public business,—but in the circumstance that entrance into the public service is determined, as far as possible, by educational tests whereby public emoluments are treated as public property, and the public is served by the fittest person." Sir Rivers Thompson cannot wholly ignore this weighty consideration. The Resolution under notice says:—"The cause of the disparity is to be sought primarily in the predilections of the Mahomedans themselves, who prefer Persian and Arabic learning, of little use in the conduct of public business, to the English education given to their children by Hindus. Even the Mahomedans who go through the usual school and college course learn their own classical languages in addition, and thus have less time to devote to studies more immediately remunerative. This habit is deeply rooted in sentiments of which they are not unjustly proud, and may never be abandoned; but its effects are daily becoming less striking. It is noticed by the Board that up to the year 1885 the Mahomedans gained only 2·4 of the B. A., degrees and 9·06 of the B. L., while in 1·86 they secured 5·29 per cent., of the former and 9·24 of the latter. It is probable that even a greater improvement has taken place in secondary education, and that the supply of candidates eligible for subordinate Government service must treble or quadruple what it was at no very remote date." No one who has a head over his shoulders will have the hardihood to deny that in recruiting the public service the Government is bound to give preference to real merit, and not to allow itself to be guided by any sentimental considerations of nationality and creed. It is only because the Mahomedans have lagged behind in the race of progress in Bengal, that they have gradually been supplanted by Hindus in the public service. The Government has ministered justice with an even hand between Hindus and Mahomedans in the dispensation of state patronage, and those who have chosen to profit by the opportunities offered, must thank themselves for their backward position. It is noticeable that, while admitting that the cause of the paucity of Mahomedans in the public offices in Bengal, is to be sought primarily in the predilections of the Mahomedans themselves, who prefer their own classical learning to English education, Sir Rivers Thompson, nevertheless, thinks that the inequality can be redressed. This position is thoroughly illogical. Our Mahomedan fellow-subjects should be made to understand that they must qualify themselves for admission to the public service by rising to the educational level of the day. If they do not take advantage of the opportunities for education and advancement which they enjoy in common with the Hindus, it is their own fault.

Latest News and Notes.

His Excellency the Viceroy left Simla on the 28th ultimo for the plains. He passed through Lahore at 6 o'clock on Friday morning, and reached Multan by the middle of the day, making a stoppage of two hours, during which he received addresses. On arriving at Bhawalpur the same evening, his Excellency was met at the station by the Nawab. On his return from Bhawalpur to-day he is expected to reach Lahore about five in the afternoon, when a public reception by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjab and the chief officials of the Province has been arranged for.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor leaves Darjeeling for Calcutta on the 9th instant. It is believed that His Honor will visit Purnea and Doomaron before His Excellency the Viceroy arrives at the Presidency.

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Sir M. Grant-Duff has come to the rescue. He cannot allow the fair (?) fame of certain members of the Madras Civil Service to go undefended, and yet dares not to openly face "the substantial interest" of his colleague in the Ritchings estate in all its entirety, so he avails himself of a Review of his five years' service to have his fling. 'No doubt' he says, "a vast amount of spiteful nonsense has been talked and written about the sins in the matter of land of that very honourable body of men, the Madras Civil Service; but I am sure all its members will see that to transgress ever so little the rules about landholding is a sad mistake, and one which enables its enemies to heap upon it all manner of false accusation." We know not which to admire most—the venom of the sarcasm contained in the first part or the impotent homily of the second part of this passage. Certain it is, that it will rather encourage than put down, the churls who indulge in "spiteful nonsense." Truly the gallant knight has committed a sad mistake in inditing such a defence.

Dr. Benjamin Wood Richardson, a writer of considerable repute on sociological subjects, has written a clever article in *Longman's Magazine*, under the startling title 'Can woman do a man's work.' After patiently going through the details of the various physiological questions which bear on the subject, he comes to this conclusion.

"The reader will, I trust, gather from this essay as an expression of my own observation, three indications: (1) That physiologically there is nothing to be advanced against the belief that woman may, under systematized training, attain to the same faculty and power of work as men. (2) That in order to reach this position of vantage, if it be one, women must be trained after the manner of men, must be content to remain a powerful and free, caste of women without maternal ties or domestic responsibilities connected with families of their own blood and nurture. (3) That for such women to attain to perfect power in mental learning and attribute, they must proceed by graduation step by step, slowly, patiently, evenly, persistently, and must ignore altogether the current temptation of appearing before a band of professional experts, in order to prove themselves equally great on any subject which any expert may choose to employ as a test of proficiency in his particular department." Yes, "women without maternal ties or domestic responsibilities will be the *summum bonum*! The greatest opponent of women's rights have never said anything worse.

A good deal of insensate and unreasoning dissatisfaction is being felt and expressed by some people at the manner in which the Bengal Government has chosen to slight the leading political Associations of the country. While the Eurasian and Anglo Indian Associations have been asked to nominate their representatives on the Public Service Commission, none of the 'Native' Associations have been deemed worthy of the honor. We see no slight in omitting to consult those whose opinions are not wanted and therefore refuse to object to the course adopted by Government. It might be said that the sincerity of the profession of good will to the 'Native community, will not be implicitly believed in. But is it believed in and can it be believed along with the rumour of Mr. Beames' nomination to represent Bengal? Mr. Beames has never been friendly to the 'Natives', and we may take it as a certainty that their interest will never be safe in the hands of Civilians of his type, This is well known to the Government and the appointment is being made deliberately. Public opinion points to Mr. H. J. S. Cotton as the right man to represent Bengal, if Government will let him do so. But public opinion is so much at discount in this country, that Mr. Cotton is bound to be set aside, if even it be only for the sake of over-riding public opinion. It may also be taken as equally certain that Mr. Justice Mitra, whose name has been suggested as the fittest and ablest Bengali representative will for 'public purposes' be quietly shelved to make room for some quiet and safe votary of *Apkawastism*.

The latest news is that Mr. F. B. Peacock, and not Mr. Beames will be appointed to represent Bengal in the Civil Service Commission. We hope the rumour will be verified. Mr. Peacock is a gentleman of the strictest rectitude of purpose, and will command the confidenc of the people.

England is once again on the throes of a serie's of Socialistic riots, and the authorities are devising vigorous precautionary measures. The Socialists have proclaimed their intention to hold a demonstration on the Lord Mayor's procession day, just by way of drawing attention to their wants and grievances. The Chief of the London Police rightly apprehending serious disturbances if such a demonstration is allowed to follow the Lord Mayor's pageantry, has forbidden the intended procession of the unemployed under the auspicies of the social Demo cratic Federation. Mr. Hyndman, the leader and spokesman of the Socialists, has replied, demanding what authority the Chief of the City Police has to forbid the intended demonstration. The Socialists are not a people to succumb under idle Police threats and the Lord Mayor's Day in London on the 9th instant is not likely to pass off very quietly.

We are not aware if Soyer ever invented a special sauce for gander and another for goose; but the Allahabad print is most earnest about it to emphasize the distinction between fair skin and dark skin. Poor Mr. Hamilton! In his simplicity he held, as Magistrate of the Fort Police court at Bombay, that there was no difference between wounds inflicted by the spurs of a jockey, and those caused by the goad used by reklawallas to drive bullocks. And the *Pi* has been thrown into hysterics ever since. It may be easy enough to show that the number of bleeding wounds on the flanks of a horse just in after a hard racing, is infinitely greater than that of wounds caused by the reklawalla; but what of that? The jockey is a European riding for the entertainment of European gentlemen and to promote the gentlemanly passion for betting, while the rekla-walla is a dirty, black, starving nigger plodding for bread, and there should be no doubt as to the propriety of fining and imprisoning the latter, and rewarding the former. Otherwise the grand neutrality of *Pioneer* justice would at once be lost. In the overflowing fullness of his sympathy for cattle feeling, just after a breakfast on beefsteaks and veal cutlets, our contemporary apostrophises—"it is unfortunate that we cannot have the opinion of the blood-stained bullock on the law of the Bombay Police Court.' For comparison he should have similar opinion from a blood bespattered horse just in after a two mile welter.

The *Englishman* has a slashing article on the Vandalism of the Lucknow Municipal Corporation in attempting to demolish the "Neill's Gate" in that city. Nor is it by any means uncalled for. Little Peddlington and the churls of the P. W. D., have done immense mischief every where in India, and it is high time, that something should be done to put a stop to their vagaries. Left unrestrained, we should not be at all surprised, if they should some day attempt to knock off the dome of the Taj which is the den of numberless bats whose excreta taint the air of Agra, or for some other equally cogent reason. The "Neills' Gate" is denounced by Mr. Henry S. Boys, Magistrate of Lucknow, as a "useless obstruction", who strengthens the argument by saying "if all the buildings from which brave men doing their duty have met their death were to be preserved as historical monuments, such relics would be more plentiful than churches." We wonder which would be the greater evil—more churches, or more monuments of brave men. Mr. Boys apparently objects to the latter. The "useless" argument may be brought against the "Residency" which certainly is not, in a narrow Benthamite sense, particularly useful. Its area levelled and tenanted would yield a good round sum every month by rent. But not even a hundred Benthams put together could have dared to breathe the idea of such a desecration.

The Hon'ble Mr. Mandlik has greatly improved his valuable edition of Manu by the addition of the commentary of Govindaraja. Owing to want of materials this work could not be printed along with the body of the text. Four good MSS. have since been obtained, and these go to the formation of the edition now under notice. The editing is all that could be wished, throughtout earnest and critical, as all Mr. Mandlik's works are, and to the oriental scholar the book will doubtless prove most welcome. To our ordinary Pundits in Bengal the exigesis of Kullaka was until lately, the only one known. The more learned among them deferred occasionally, but rarely, to the work of Medhatithy, but few had heard of Govindaraja. Such was however, not the case in former times for it appears from a cursory examination, which is all that we have been able to make lately, that Govindaraja was well known to Kullaka, who did not hesitate to borrow very largely even the language of his predecessor. Local influence enabled Kullaka to give to his work such a wide currency as in a manner to supercede the writings of his predecessors; but he was by no means the first or the best of the commentators of Manu. In fact, he stands in this respect very much in the position of Raghunandan who borrowd wholesale from Sulapani and then superseded him.

The *Englishman* has started a Brummagem imitation of John Bright's argument in defence of adulteration, to condemn the new *Ghi* Adulteration Act. It urges that the Act which has abolished cheap ghi in Bengal, is a novel wrong to the poorer classes, and its only justification is the very questionable one of a sentimental gain in the interests of caste and purity. The argument is perfect with the trifling exception of the premises being all out. The religious scruples belong to the entire seventy millions, except the writer of the defence and his co-religionists, not exceeding ten thousand all told; and what the important element the said seventy millions ask is *Ghi*, and not tallow or lard sold under the name of *Ghi*. They object to the deception of selling one thing under another name, and it concerns public morals and not sentimentalism. It may suit the moral perception of certain people to indulge in such deceptions; but the good sense of Englishmen in England enforces a law which makes penal the sale of oleo-margarine as butter. The argument of 'cheap ghi' is as sound as that of cheap cloth, in which pieces containing 37 yards of cloth are stamped 40 yards and sold as such, a proceeding to which some of our contemporary's constituents are very prone.

We need scarcely remind our readers that the antagonism of the *Englishman* to the Act is due to the rejection by the Bengal Council of the Health Society's memorial about certain defects in Bazar flesh meat, of the nature of some of which Mr. Harrison knew nothing, and the presenter of the memorial could afford no explanation. We are not aware that our contemporary has since supplied the shortcoming. By the way, does not the argument about cheapness apply to diluted milk? Certain it is that excessively dear milk is tantamount to the stoppage of all food to an enormous number of poor infants. We are sure our contemporary is not actuated by any such motive as that of surreptitiously encompassing the religious susceptibilities of our countrymen, both Hindu and Mahammadan, by sneering at sentimental gain.

We readily make room for the following from a correspondent, who dates his latter from Cawnpore Oct. 22, 1886:

Sir,—I am very sorry to find a very material error in your article on Ekadasi as observed by Bengali widows published in your issue of the 18th instant. You state that the *absolute fast* is observed by the widows of the higher castes of the following districts *only*—Burdwan, Hoogly, 24-Purganas, Sahabad (*Sic*), Calcutta, Nadia, and Moorshedabad. Excluding Sahabad (a district in Behar), which must have crept in inadvertently, you mean to say that throughout the entire Lower Provinces of Bengal, there are only 7 (seven) districts where the fast of Ekadasi is observed absolutely. Surely you must know better! I am aware of the fact that in *some remote districts in the East*, the fast is not observed absolutely; but they are very few, and they do not include districts like the following:—Rajshye, Dinajpur, Rungpur, Bogra, Pubna, and certain others adjacent thereto. If Hindu rites and ceremonies as prescribed by Raghunandan, not inaptly called as far as the absolute fast of Ekadasi is concerned, the Draco of Bengal, are observed rigidly anywhere in Bengal, they are observed in the districts I have above enumerated. Your argument, unassailable in the main points, becomes a little weakened by addition of your figures; but of all men in the world you are the last to suppress facts to strengthen an argument.

Requesting you will be pleased to publish the above in a corner of your esteemed Journal,

I remain, yours truly,
Rajshye.

Our correspondent is quite right in taking exception to the word 'Sahabad' in the tabular statement. It is a misprint for Jessor, which we named in the body of the article. The error is a gross one, quite as gross as the word "spare" in line 35 column 1 page 486, which should be "square." We cannot, however, admit as a fact that the *Ekadasi* is observed as an absolute fast by the widows of Rajshahi, Dinagpur, Rungpore, Bogra and Pubna. Doubtless there are in those districts widows of the Brahman and Kayastha castes who have recently migrated from Lower Bengal who follow the customs of their native places. But they are emigrants, whose practice does not influence the custom of the district, and their number is too small to admit of enumeration. Such exceptional instances occur in every part of India, except in the town of Puri, and even there such Calcutta Brahman and Kayastha widows as are very strict go out of the town, to the other side of the Atharanala bridge, on the *Ekadasi* day to observe their rigorous fast, but these form not integers in any general calculation by districts. We have no hesitation in saying again that exceptions apart the native widows of the Brahman, Kayastha and Vaidya castes in the districts named by our correspondent do not *as a universal rule* observe the absolute fast. We can speak especially of Puntea in the Rajshahi district. Nor does our correspondent assert the contrary in so many words. He says: "If Hindu rites and ceremonies as prescribed by Ragunandan * * * are observed any where in Bengal, they are observed in the districts I have enumerated above." This does not cover the ground fully. The rites and ceremonies may be, and as a matter fact are, observed in the districts named, and yet they may not be *all* observed or observed *as strictly as prescribed*. We are not aware of any caste or community in Bengal in which *all* the rites and ceremonies are observed, with *rigid accurracy*. Some rites are omitted, while some others are modified to suit local or family customs. So the asseveration of our correspondent is not enough. We have to observe, moreover, that Raghuhandana is not the sole nor the leading authority in regard to *Ekadasi*, nor is his dictum on that fast by any means detailed and full, and therefore to invoke him in connexion with the question at issue is of little moment. We do not pin our faith on the exact accuracy of the figures quoted by us from the Census Report. No one can, who knows anything of the manner in which the Census returns were obtained. They are, however, substiantally correct for all practical purposes, and that is all we contend for, and they show that the area of rigid fast in Bengal is very limited.

We owe Mr. Khurody of Indore an apology for not having noticed earlier his third series of Albums. His "Indian Scenes" and "Crowned Heads and Rulers of the World" have already favourably introduced him to the art-loving Indian public, and his 'Trip round the world' but adds to his reputation. The chief points of interest of London, Liverpool, Paris, Berlin, Munich, Vienna, Rome, Naples, Milan, Venice, Chicago, Boston and other European and American cities comprise the series under notice. No African or Asiatic town, with the exception of Melbourne, if one cares to call that an Asiatic town, however are included as probably beyond the pale of the "civilized world." The pictures are got up in a very neat style, and the price of the publication places it within the reach of all.

Babu Purno Chunder De b. a., has compiled some useful critical and explanatory Notes on Milton's Comus and portions of Wordsworth's work and Macaulay's Horatius and Regillus and Tennyson's Enoch Arden. The notes are in the form of questions and answers and therefore the easier of being retained by the student. We are opposed to all system of cram. but the manner in which the University-Examinations are generally conducted now a days makes it perhaps impossible that a milder shape of cram should be altogether avoided. A large mass of information has been given in a handy way, and the compiler has spared no pains to make it thoroughly serviceable to those for whom the compilation is intended.

Mr. Traill has sent us his Indian Diary for 1887, which fully sustains his reputation of the previous years. His Indian Diaries have been only in existence for three years, and already bid fair to replace Lett's costly Diaries, as they are specially adapted for India. Much valuable information is given at the beginning of each Diary, and the get up is all that could be desired. The Diaries are all moderately priced. The addition of Indian dates enhances the value of the publications. The Indian public will find Mr. Traill's Vernacular Diary, which removes a long-felt want, also very, useful.

THE Police case against Mr. D. M. Traill for the murder of his Duftry, has come to a close. The Magistrate thought that the prosecution had tendered a large mass of incoherent evidence without attempting to start any 'theory', whatever that may mean. The prosecution has abandoned the more serious charge of murder and culpable homicide, and the charges against the accused have now been reduced to the milder one of grievous hurt and hurt. Mr. Traill has been committed to the Sessions on those charges, and the Honble Mr. Irving and Mr. Pratt stand security for him.

Mr. Traill's case against the man who gave in formation to the Police about the Duftry's death, has on the other hand fallen through. This man was being most absurdly prosecuted for perjury, before a court of law had decided as to whether his information was false or otherwise. The Magistrate very properly held that no charge could lie against the man before a Judge and Jury had decided in Mr. Traill's favour in the other case, and directed the defendant's discharge.

THE Afghan Boundary Commission is on its way back to India, in fact is due at Peshwar in a day or two It has, as every body knows, at any rate feels, done mightily little for the Amir who has been quietly shorn of a goodly portion of his Northern and Western territories to appease the growling Bear, and much less, we are afraid, for the continuance of the Bear's good-will. It has, however, been feted by the Amir all the same at Kabul, where Abdur Rahaman invited it out of good natured gratitude or for the sake of keeping up appearances. The 'specials' with the Commission are overflowing with accounts of Kabulese good things and every thing indicates peace. prosperity, and fi elity to the British cause in the Amir's territories. The Kabulese visit of a large commission in opposition to the traditional Afghan prejudice against everything British, by itself speaks volumes in favour of the satibility of British influence in Afghanisthan. The interview of Sir West Ridgeway with the Amir took place at his palace near Baber's Tomb on the 20th ultimo, and the reception that the Amir gave to the party is said to have been very cordial. Breakfast, parade, interchange of presents and conferring of orders which Afghanisthan does not seem to lack in, were all in correct style, and the Amir's troops and officers are said to have favourably impressed the British officers. The Amir is reported to be in excellent health and to have spoken in the most cordial terms of the friendship of Afghanisthan and England. All is well that ends well, and we may be as well glad that the Commission has past through the Afghan territories safe.

MR. HORACE COCKERELL has returned from leave and resumed charge of the Revenue Board.

WE regret to hear that the Viscount Clandeboye, is lying ill of typhoid fever at Lucknow, and Lady Dufferin, in a truly womanly spirit has hastened from Simla to nurse her suffering son. Her Ladyship does not therefore accompany His Excellency the Viceroy in his Excellency's winter tour.

THE popular Duchess of Connought, every one will be glad to hear, has recovered from her late attack of illness which kept her confined to Simla for same time. His Royal Highness the Duke has now proceeded from Simla to Rowlpindi and take charge of the Division.

THE Provisional Government of Bulgaria have not, it seems been yet intimadited by the Russian threats and the untoward combination of the Powers. They have migrated to Trinova from Sofia and were to have held the Grand Sobranjee the day before yesterday, when after verifying the election a Prince was to have been elected. The Bulgarian Revolutionists have a most unpleasant method of getting rid of obnoxious opposition and their plan is to carry off the men in power bag and baggage. The trick played on Prince Alexander has been tried on the Provisional Government but has failed. The Commander of Lom Planka has been arrested for plotting with the view of seizing the Bulgarian Regents and Ministers. A state of siege has been proclaimed at Sofia and Varna. General Kaulbars has demanded its removal immediately. This is in consequence of the attempt made by the Zankovists, to overthrow the Provisional Government General Kaulbars has sent a series of notes to the Bulgarian Regency, in which he revives his old complaints. and emphasizes the gravity of the situation which has necessitated the despatch of Russian war-vessels to Varna, and demands the immediate release of the kidnappers of Prince Alexander. The notes are regarded as forshadowing a Russian occupation of Bulgaria. It is reported that his Imperial Majesty the Czar has sounded Prince Waldemar, of Denmark, as to whether he would accept the Princedom of Bulgaria.

Telegrams.

Mr, C. E. Lewis Conservative, has been unseated for Londonderry City, in favour of Mr. Justin McCarthy, Parnellite.

Lord Hartington intends starting for his tour in India early in November.

COUNT Von Beust, the distinguished German statesman, is dead.

THE European and Burmese officials urgently recommend the instant commencement of the railway from Tounghoo to Mandalay and Government has sanctioned its immediate construction.

THERE was great excitement the other day among the Skye crofters. Several bailiffs, attended by a strong force of policemen, attempted to carry out certain evictions. The crofters stubbornly resisted and stoned the police, who, being overpowered, summoned the marines to their assistance. The marines charged the crowd at the point of the bayonet, and succeeded in dispersing the mob, Six arrests were made.

AT the request of the Consul at Varna Russia is sending to that port two war vessels in order to protect her subjects

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THE Russian journals state that the troops on board the Russian cruisers will occupy Varna unless the Russian subjects there are released.

THE Pondos, in spite of all assurances given by their Chief, Umquicka, with the view of arriving at an amicable settlement of the Pondo question by the aid of Sir Theophilus Shepstone, have invaded the Xesebe country. They have burned the kraals in Xesebeland, and 10,000 Pondos are now concentrated on the border bent upon further invasion. The Cape Government are raising Volunteers in order to fight the Pondos.

NEWS has been received at the Cape Town that the force of Pondos which had assembled on the border after their invasion of Xesebeland has dispersed, and that everything for the present is quiet in that region.

THE Nataliahs are demanding their right to assume the protectorate over Zululand, but the Hon. E. Stanhope, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dissents from it.

THE correspondence between England and Russia regarding the Afghan frontier question extending from 1872 to 1885 has been officially published at St. Petersburg.

LORD Randolph Churchill, speaking at Bradford on the 26th ultimo said that Europe was at present in a state of transition, and he deprecated the idea of committing England to a positive action, while the interests of others rather than those of England were menaced.

TOUCHING on Ireland, his Lordship said that the accounts received by her Majesty's Government from that country were favourable. The Cabinet will shortly decide whether it is necessary to apply to Parliament for special measures affecting certain districts in Ireland; and with regard to cloture for effectively counteracting the Parnellites' threats, he was perfectly convinced of its necessity, and would urgently insist upon its adoption

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CASES OF CHRONIC COUGH.—This celebrated Oil has been most extensively and successfully used in the treatment of Coughs. It effectually correctst he morbid action and deposits of the mucous surface of the throat and bronchial tubes, and speedily allays the irration which produces frequent and prolonged coughing. Dr. Hunter Semple, Physician to the Hospital for Diseases of Throat and Chest, writes:—"I have long been aware of the great reputation enjoyed by the Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil introduced into medical practice by Dr. de Jongh, and have recommended it with the utmost confidence. I have no hesitation in stating my opinion, that it possesses all the qualities of a good and efficient medicine. Its taste is by no means disagreeable, and might even be called pleaasnt. I can fully believe that, from its richness in chemical principles, it is superior in efficacy to many, or perhaps all, of the pale-coloured Oils. I have fiound Dr. de Jongh's Oil very useful in cases of Chronic Cough, and specially in Laryngeal Disease complicated with Consumption." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, drugists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn London.

Acknowledgments.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the following publications.

1. EighteenthAnnual Report of the Sanitary Commissioner of the N. W. P. and Oudh for 1885.
2. Bhishak Bandhu. for October.
3. Annual Statement of the sea borne trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency 1885-86.
4. Report on the Administration of the Excise Department in Assam for 1885-86.
5. Letters to Editors By Babu Kissory Nath Mitra.
6. Civil Justice Report of Lower Burma for 1885.
7. The Indian Omnibus for 1886.
8. Total quantities of the principal Articles carried by Rail between the different Provinces and Native States of British India during the quarter ending on the 31st March 1886.
9. Notes on Milton's Comus and Selections from Wordsworth by P. De.
10. Frederick Ullmers Standard circular for September 1886.
11. The Mahabharata, translated into English prose by Pratap Chandra Roy Part xxvii.
12. Vina Edited by Raj Kissen Roy vol iv No. 1.
13. The Indian Tribute and the Loss by Exchange. By Thomas Inwood Pollard.
14. Notes critical and explanatory on Macaulay's Horatius and Regillus and Tennyson's Enoch Arden by P. De B. A.

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*October* 27. 1886.

General–18th Octr-Baboo Noni Lal Mookerjee, Temporary Sub- Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, is promoted temporarily to the third grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors from 18th Feby.

Mr. Lambert, C. I. E. Dy. Commissioner of police, Calcutta, has been granted by the Secy of State for India an extension of furlough for three months.

21st Octr-Baboo Bhoirub nath Palit, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Burdwan.

22nd Octr-Mr. B. De to act in the first grade of Joint Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and posted to the Sudder station, Hooghly.

Mr. C. R. Marindin, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder station, Mymensing.

Baboo Girindro nath Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Fureedpore, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Pubna, during the absence, on leave of Baboo Poorno Chander Gupta.

Baboo Rajendra Chunder Ghose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector. Nowgong, Rajshahye, on leave, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Fureedpore.

Mr. H. J. H. Fasson, Officiating Magistrate and Collector Backergung, leave for ten days.

Baboo Nanda Krishna Bose Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge to act as Magistrate and Collector of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. H. J. H. Fassson.

25th Octr—Mr. G. E. Manisty to act in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and deputy Collector, and is posted to the Sudder station of the Patna district, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Dacca.

Mr. H. H. Birch, Officiating Dy. Magistrate and Dy. Collector, leave up to 15th proximo in extension.

Baboo Girendro Nath Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hazaribagh. leave for two months.

Mr. H. H. Birch, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy-Collector, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Hazaribagh.

Baboo Purna Chunder Gupta, Temporaay Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pubna, leave for three months, from the date on which he may be relieved.

Police—25th Octr—Mr. H. W. J. Bamber Dist Supdt of Police, is posted to the 24 Pergunnahs dist.

Registration—18th Octr—Mr. J. A. Bourdillon C. S. has been granted by Her Majesty's Secy of State for India an extension of furlough for three months on sick certe.

Education—18th octr—Baboo Kalli Churn Sen is apptd to be Secy to the Dist School Commee of Pubna vice Baboo Raj Kumar Roy, transferred.

Opium—21st Octr—Mr. C. F. O. Dowda is apptd to act as an Asst Sub-Dy Opium Agent in the Benares Agency, vice Mr. N. Morris, resigned.

Moulvi Abdul Mujid, Offg Asst Sub-Dy Opium Agent. Behar Agency, to be a sub pro tem, Probationary Asst Sub-Dy Opium Agent in that Agency, vice Mr. G. F. Levett Yeats.

Notification—21st Octr—Baboo Hari Mohun Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is apptd to be Deputy Collector of Income Tax in the dist of Backergunge, vice Moulvie Syad Obedullah.

Public Works Department—Bengal—General—25th Octr—Mr. C. P. Warde, Asst Engr, second grade Hazaribagh Divsion, passed the Lower Standard Examn in Hindustani on 4th may and the Deptl Standard Examn on 17th Sept.

Railway—25th Octr—Mr. H. B. Taylor, Asst Engr, first grade, Northern Bengal State Rlwy, passed the Deptl Standard Examn in Hindustani on 30th Sept.

General—25th Octr—Mr. W. Connan, Exe Engr, first grade, sub pro tem, having reported his arrival at Bombay on 12th inst, on return from the furlough the unexpired portion of his furlough is cancelled. Mr. Connan is temply attached to the Public Works Dept Secretariat as Offg Under-Secy from 18th inst.

The Leut-Govr is pleased to make the followg appmts:—

Mr. L. R. Rorberts, Exe Engr, to be Inspr of Local Works in the Burdwan Divn, with effect from 1st Octr.

Mr. W. Connan, Exe Engr, to be Inspr of Local Works in the Presy Divn, from date of joining.

Irrigation—25th Octr—Mr. H. E. Pellereau, Asst Engr, second grade, attached to the Balasore Divn, passed the examn in colloquial Hindustani on 30th Ult.

Mr. M. H. Arnott, Asst Engr 1st grade, is posted to the Arrah Divn, (Dehree Workshops), which he joined on 10th inst.

Mr. H. P. Wylly Dy Revenue Supdt of Canals in Orrissa, is promoted from the second to the first grade, from the 1st Octr, 1883.

Mr- A. E. Silk, Asst Engr, first grade, sub pro tem, attached to the Brahmini Byturni Divn, passed the Lower Standard Eamn in Hindustani on 4th inst.

Mr. G. A. G. Shawe, Exe Engr, third grade, on retun from furlough, is posted to the Orrissa Circle.

Mr. M. J. Moncton, Exe Engr, third grade, has been granted by the Secretary of State for India four weeks furlough in extension.

Jail Department—21st Octr—Dr R. Macleod made over charge of the Gya Jail to Mr. W. Rattray on 2nd Octr.

22nd Octr—Surg-Maj H. Whitewell made over charge of the Patna Jail to Surg-Maj F. C. Nicholson on 11th Octr.

25th Octr—Dr. W. Forsyth made over charge of the Durbhunhga Jail to Surg-Maj W. A. Gilligan on 1st Octr.

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সুরভি ও পতাকার

পঞ্চম বাৎসরিক উৎসব উপলক্ষে

উপহার

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(নূতন অপূর্ব্ব উপন্যাস)

মূল্য ১৲ এক টাকা মাত্র।

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